IN THE DRAWINGS

Please find enclosed herewith, copies of Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, 6A, and 6B, as originally filed herein, with proposed amendments in red for the approval of the Examiner.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please rewrite the paragraph on page 17, lines 11-19, as follows:

For example, when the command (verb) now being executed and a newly requested command (verb) are the same ENT (corresponding to M-CREATE of CMIP operation) and DLT (corresponding to M-DELETE of the CMIP operation), the HOST racing control unit 13 refers to the common racing control table 16 and sends the message of processing failure "PROCESSING FAILURE". Similarly, in the case of EDT, RST, and RMV (corresponding to M-SET of CMIP operation), it sends the message of processing failure "PROCESSING FAILURE". Namely, it refuses execution of the newly requested operation.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite claims 1-5 as follows:

1. (Once Amended) A method of racing control in system management including the steps of determining, regarding newly requested operations under the Common Management Information Protocol (CMIP) defined by an Open System Interconnection (OSI) model for switching systems, whether or not a managed object instance of operations now being executed and a managed object instance specified by the newly requested operations are the same and, when the instances are different, allowing execution of the newly requested operations, while when the instances are the same, referring to a racing control table formed based on a

combination of operation classifications to determine whether it is possible to execute the newly requested operations.

2. (Once Amended) A method of racing control in system management including the steps of determining, regarding either one of the newly requested operations of operations under the Common Management Information Protocol (CMIP) defined by the Open System Interconnection (OSI) model for switching systems and operations inherent to the system, whether or not an external expression establishing correspondence between managed object instances of CMIP operations and resources to be controlled of operations inherent to the system is the same as the external expression of the operations now being executed, when they are different, allowing the execution of the newly requested operations, while when they are the same, establishing correspondence of the classification of CMIP operations with a classification of control of operations inherent to the system and referring to a common racing control table formed based on combinations of the latter classifications of control to determine whether it is possible to execute the newly requested operations.

3. (Once Amended) A method of racing control in system management including the steps of determining, regarding either one of the newly requested operations of operations under the Common Management Information Protocol (CMIP) defined by the Open System Interconnection (OSI) model for switching systems and operations inherent to the system, whether or not an external expression establishing correspondence between managed object instances of CMIP operations and resources to be controlled of operations inherent to the system is the same as the external expression of the operations now being executed, when they are

different, allowing the execution of the newly requested operations, while when they are the same, establishing correspondence of the classification of CMIP operations with the classification of control of operations inherent to the system and referring to a common racing control table formed based on combinations of the former classifications of operations to determine whether it is possible to execute the newly requested operations.

4. (Once Amended) A system of racing control in system management by a Common Management Information Protocol (CMIP) operations defined by the Open System Interconnection (OSI) model for switching systems, provided with:

an operation registration table for registering operations now being executed;

a racing control table for storing information of whether or not newly requested operations may be executed in the form (matrix) of combinations of classifications of newly requested and now being executed CMIP operations; and

a racing control unit including a first means for extracting operations now being executed from the operation registration table upon newly requested operations, a second means for determining whether or not the managed object instance of the operations now being executed extracted by this first means and the managed object instance of the newly requested operations are the same, and a third means for, when it is determined by this second means that they are the same, determining whether or not newly requested operations can be executed by referring to the racing control table.